

Southeast PTO Meeting Minutes- September 14, 2015

Meeting called to order at 6:05pm by Erin Clark

Attendance- Mrs. Mary deVecchis, Sheralyn Sibilia, Melissa O'Donovan, Noreen Halbrooks, Lena Rossi, Lindy DeGennaro, Erin Clark, Jennifer Mott, Janice Wehner, Candace Zhang, Cheri Johnson, Jon Sgro, Erin Christopher, Laura Kravet, Sarai Camacho, Reza Rahaeimehr, Dan Blanchard, Lauren Rodriguez

The PTO will be paying Hannah from Mansfield Parks/Rec afterschool care to be the childcare provider at meetings this year.

1. Introduction of Officers, Parents and Staff

2. Upcoming PTO Events- Fall Carnival/Silent Auction- Saturday September 26th 10am-3pm

Erin Christopher provided a carnival update. Volunteers are still needed to help. There is a sign up spreadsheet on the PTO board or volunteers can email the PTO. There are various one hour shifts that need to be filled. There is also a need for people to donate their talents, especially a face painter. A slingshot is a new addition to the carnival this year and 2 adults are needed to help. Volunteers are needed for the 3-4:30pm cleanup crew. Covered tents and blenders are also needed along with large cardboard boxes(appliance size) for the maze. Friday night may be best time to construct the maze. Parents are encouraged to email Erin Clark any time with questions.

Erin Clark and Jennifer Mott provided a Silent Auction update. Historically this is how the majority of money is raised from the carnival. Erin and Jennifer explained how parents have been soliciting donations from local businesses as well as online and they thanked parents for their efforts. A spreadsheet was passed around to see if anyone could possibly make last minute connections with any local businesses on the list. Also, teacher classroom gift baskets and other items are also part of the auction.

Relay for Life- October 17-18th 11am-11am at ECSU - Lindy DeGennaro provided an update on this event. Southeast has formed the "Demi Grace Blessings Team 2" and we are joining with Demi Team 1. Volunteers will walk the track during the event and there will be a booth to sell things such as Tony's Pizza, baked goods and jewelry. Volunteers are needed to join our Southeast team. Each volunteer is asked to contribute/raise \$100 if you join the team but it's a group effort. \$570 has already been raised by our Southeast team. Purple ribbons will be sold at the carnival along with other products to go toward the overall total contribution raised for Demi's teams. There is sign up information on the PTO bulletin board or you can email the PTO for information. Mary DeVecchis has shared this information with the Southeast staff.

3. Student/Parent Directory for 2015-16- Volunteers were needed to enter parent contact information per class that can be integrated into the school wide parent directory. This is based on the sheets parents filled out the first week of school. Various parents volunteered to type information for the directory and the goal is to have this done within the next two weeks.

4. Upcoming Fundraiser and Events that still need Coordinators- Teacher Appreciation Luncheon- May- TBD, Scholastic Book Fair- Lena Rossi will coordinate this and she will book the dates for early June, Munson's- Lena Rossi will coordinate this as well, 4th Grade Moving on Ceremony- June- TBD

5. Meet & Greet for New Families- September 18th at 2:45pm in room 3. This event is an opportunity for new Southeast families to get to know each other and meet with various PTO members. This time was chosen based on the feedback from the parent surveys from last year.

6. Principal's Report- Principal Rodriguez reported that the first Board of Ed meeting was held last week and bus concerns were discussed. The new superintendent spoke at the meeting and parents also voiced concerns. Some bussing decisions will be made soon and looking into other bus company contracts may occur. Principal Rodriguez encouraged parents to go online to hear the Board of Ed meeting. Also, Star Student luncheons will be continuing this year, monthly on Wednesdays, and parent volunteer photographers are needed to take students pictures. Please contact Mrs. Rodriguez if you are able to help take pictures. Guided reading groups are starting Wednesday Sept 16th for grades 1-4. There are various teachers involved so students may not be with their regular classroom teachers. Student Eagle expectations, including positive behavior choices, continue to be stressed throughout all grades.

New staff members this year include Alissa Philopena, School Psychologist and Pierce Streeter, Head Custodian

Mrs. Proffer will be on maternity leave soon.

Mrs. Rodriguez welcomes phone calls or emails with any parent questions, ideas, or concerns.

7. Determine time and place for fundraising brainstorming session- Mel O'Donovan

Mel O'Donovan and Erin Clark will meet with interested parents on **Friday October 2nd at 4pm** on the playground. This time was chosen because it seemed best with parents schedules. Mrs. Hanka may be doing a candle fundraiser to coincide with the Relay for Life

8. Treasurer's Report- There was a discussion about T-shirt sales from last year. A bulk order was placed last year but unfortunately we did not sell as much as we anticipated- about \$500 off. We will sell shirts at Open House and the Carnival. There is an interest in sweatshirts and there was a discussion about either placing another order or exploring using another company.

Reminders- Virginia Walton, Town of Mansfield Recycling Coordinator will be at our next meeting, October 5th to make a brief presentation.

Meeting adjourned by Erin Clark at 7:05pm

Meeting Minutes respectfully submitted by Jennifer Mott, Co-Secretary, Sheralyn Sibilia, Co-Secretary